Office of the Attorney General State of Texas



March 4, 1991

Mr. Thomas G. Mason Deputy General Counsel Lower Colorado River Authority P.O. Box 220 Austin, Texas 78767

OR91-118

Dear Mr. Mason:

You previously asked whether data base and documentation of the Lower Colorado River Authority's Daily Allocation Model is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. You originally contended that this information comes under the protection of section 3(a)(10) of the act, citing Open Records Decision No. 401 (1983) as authority. Since the time that we received your opinion request, however, this office has modified Open Records Decision No. 401.

In Open Records Decision No. 581 (1990) (copy enclosed), this office determined that information that has no significance other than its use as a tool for the maintenance, manipulation, or protection of public property is not the kind of information made public under section 3(a) of the Open Records Act. Accordingly, the source codes are not subject to the Open Records Act. The data base itself, which you state is released to LCRA employees and other users, does not appear to be the type of information at issue in Open Records Decision No. 581; consequently the data base may not be withheld.

The Response Model Documentation consists primarily of material describing the model in general, non-technical terms. We have marked the information that, on its face, comes within the standard announced by Open Records Decision No. 581. If you believe that the release of other information contained in the documentation would in fact jeopardize the security of the information system, please submit to this office within ten days of receipt of this letter your contentions as to why specific information should be withheld.

Because case law and prior published open records decisions resolve your request,

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we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR91-118.

Yours very truly,

Steve Aragon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinion Committee

SA/RWP/lcd

Ref.: ID# 10975

OR90-557

Enclosures: Open Records Decision No. 581

Marked documents

cc: Douglas G. Caroom

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